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January 17, 2003

Hon. James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
P. O. Box 94275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Re: Hackberry Zone, Reservoir C; Woodlawn
Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

Application is hereby made on behalf of Noble Energy, Inc., successor by merger to Samedan Oil Corporation, to the Commissioner of Conservation for the calling of a public hearing, after legal notice, pertaining to the following matters relative to the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir C (previously denominated Reservoir D in the December 17, 2002 pre-application notice); Woodlawn Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana:

1. To establish rules and regulations governing the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir C; Woodlawn Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana;

2. To create three (3) drilling and production units for the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir C designated as the HBY RC SUA, SUB and SUC, as shown on the plat attached hereto;
3. To force pool and integrate all separately owned tracts, mineral leases and other property interests within the units so created on a surface acreage basis of participation;
4. To designate a unit well and unit operator for HBY RC SUA;
5. To allow the Commissioner of Conservation to reclassify the reservoir by supplemental order, without the necessity of a public hearing, should the producing characteristics of the Reservoir change and evidence to justify reclassification is submitted to and accepted by the Commissioner of Conservation;
6. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent to the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir C.

The Hackberry Zone, Reservoir C, in the Woodlawn Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, is hereby defined as that gas and condensate bearing zone encountered between the depths of 10,875 feet and 11,233 feet (electrical log measurements) in the Lamar Hunt-Clyde Hebert No. 1 Well located in Section 35, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, and is hereby further defined as that zone encountered between the depths of 11,135 and 11,718 feet (electrical log measurements) in the Texoil et al - S. Lejeune No. 3 Well located in Section 32, Township 8 South, Range 5 West, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana.

All pertinent data relating to this application may be obtained **AT THE COST OF THE REQUESTING PARTY** from Cutright & Hardwick, P. O. Box 80972, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70598-0972, (337) 232-7756.

The pre-application conference was held as scheduled on January 9, 2003. In attendance were the parties shown on the attached attendance list. The conference was opened by the undersigned and turned over to Travis Helms, consulting geologist for the applicant, who discussed the bases of the applicant's proposal and answered questions concerning same. A potential counterplan was presented by Mr. Trey Freund on behalf of Philip Hebert. This proposal differed from the applicant's in the configuration of the geographic boundaries. After some discussion and a brief recess, the applicant presented a revised plan which differed from the original in slightly increasing the size of the units and adding a third unit to the west. All parties in attendance appeared to generally approve of this revised proposal, and accordingly applicant does not expect opposition at the hearing. After further questions and answers, the conference was

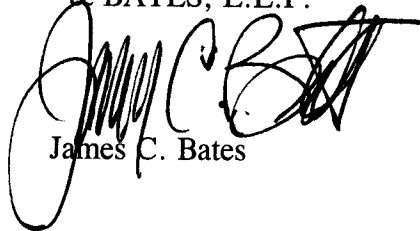
Hon. James H. Welch
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adjourned. The plat attached thereto reflects the revised proposal shown at the pre-application conference. Should any party wish to confer about the revised proposal, please contact the undersigned and a pre-hearing conference will be scheduled.

Attached hereto and made a part hereof is a plat outlining the proposed HBY RA SUA, SUB and SUC in the Woodlawn Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana. Also enclosed to the Commissioner of Conservation and District Manager **ONLY** is a list of Interested Owners, Interested Parties and Represented Parties to whom a copy of this notice is being sent. Copies of this list will be provided upon request. A reasonable effort has been made to ascertain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Interested Parties or Represented Parties.

Very truly yours,

STRAIN, DENNIS, MAYHALL
& BATES, L.L.P.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JCB', is written over the printed name 'James C. Bates'.

James C. Bates

JCB:mw

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Richard Hudson
District Manager

Interested Parties
Interested Owners
Represented Parties

R 5 W

28

27

26

Davidson-Basin
C. Estes

9800'

Estelle P. Marceaux, et al

Texoil, et al Co., et al
C. W. Estes

9874'

Jeff Davis Farms, Inc.

Patrick Pinch

Wm. J. Pinch, Jr.

HBV RC SUC
(UNDRILLED)
± 360 ACRES

HBV RC SUB
(UNDRILLED)
± 360 ACRES

HBV RC SUA
(UNDRILLED)
± 360 ACRES

IRV, Inc.

Virginia C. Hayes, et al

IRV, Inc.

Davidson
Estes, et al

Sohio, et al
Bible-Bruner

9800'

9814'

33

Sohio, et al
Bible-Bruner

9900'

Carolyn Bruner
Trust, et al

Sohio, et al
Bible-Bruner

9610'

Sohio, et al
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Bible-Bruner

9809'

Tee Oil
W. W. Bruner

9872'

Carolyn Bruner Trust, et al

4

Texoil, et al
LeJeune

9888'

KALM, Inc.

Petro, Futures
E. Cormier

10013'

Esma Pitre Todd

Edward J. Cormier

Mary Monks Broussard, et al

Carolyn Bruner
Trust, et al

John R.
Meche

Union Sulph.
T. Cormier

12667'

9

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NOTE: ALL BOUNDARIES ARE GEOGRAPHIC

Caracus Pet.
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11842'

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